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(54) Title: **CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS AND METHODS FOR REMOVING DYE**

(57) **Abstract:** Chemical compounds and methods for removing dye from polyester fibers, in particular poly(ethylene terephthalate) ("PET") fibers, is disclosed. The compounds and methods are particularly useful for removing dye from panel fabric made from recycled PET fibers. The method involves contacting the PET with a dye removal compound in a sealable vessel. The contents of the vessel are agitated and heated to achieve an increase in pressure and temperature. Following a cooling down period, the PET is removed and rinsed with water. The dye removal compound includes an aqueous solution of at least one leveling agent.

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